

THE SCORCHED

image

26

DIGITAL
EDITION

LAYMAN

SEGOVIA

NUGENT



BARBERI '22

+fco



26

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EDITION

LAYMAN
SEGOVIA
NUGENT

THE SCORCHED



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SPAWN CREATED BY
TODD McFARLANE

PREVIOUSLY IN THE SCORCHED

The villainous sister of The Violator, Viscerator, has returned and is seeking violence against The Scorched.

OPERATION CHAMUSCADO

OPERATIVES: AL SIMMONS,
JESSICA PRIEST, FRANK BISHOP

TARGET:
JOAQUIN GAVIARA

WE WERE TOLD IT
WAS *ROUTINE* BLACK
OPS, BUT WE KNEW
BETTER THAN *THAT*.

JASON WYNN
WOULDN'T HAVE
SENT THREE
OF HIS BEST
ON A *ROUTINE*
MISSION.

WYNN HAD HIS OWN
AGENDA, WHICH IS WHY WE
WERE HERE... MAKING OUR
WAY THROUGH THE JUNGLES
OF SOUTHERN COLOMBIA.

THEN AGAIN, WHEN
DIDN'T WYNN HAVE
HIS OWN *AGENDA*?

I GOT
EYES ON.

ROLL
OUT. YOU
KNOW THE
PLAN.

REGARDLESS OF THE
OFFICIAL RECORD,
OUR MISSION WAS
NEVER ABOUT
STOPPING JOAQUIN
GAVIARA'S EMPIRE OF
DRUGS AND GUNS.

IT WAS ABOUT
THE KICKBACKS
WYNN GOT--TO
LOOK THE OTHER
WAY--SUDDENLY
GETTING SMALLER.

SO, WYNN
WAS **DONE**
LOOKING THE
OTHER WAY.



HIDING GAVIRA'S OPERATION
AMID CIVILIANS MEANT WE
HAD TO GO IN **QUIET**.



AL'S JOB WAS
TO PROVIDE A
DISTRACTION.



AND AL **NEVER**
FAILED AN
ASSIGNMENT.

CLEARING THE PERIMETER WAS PRIEST'S TASK.



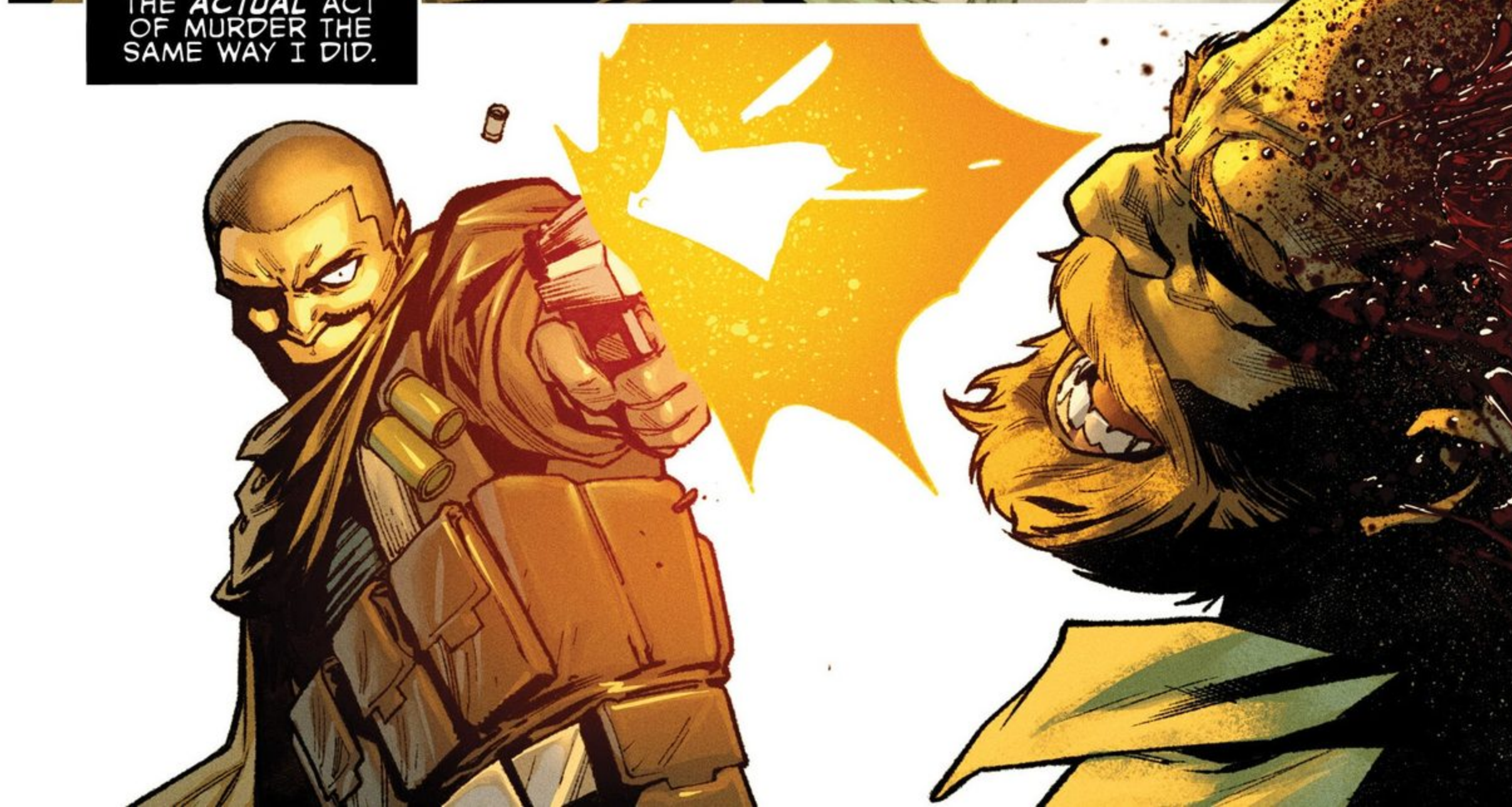
SHE WAS NEARLY AS DEADLY AS SIMMONS.



TOGETHER, THE THREE OF US WERE AN EFFICIENT AND DEADLY TEAM.



THOUGH NEITHER OF THEM ENJOYED THE ACTUAL ACT OF MURDER THE SAME WAY I DID.





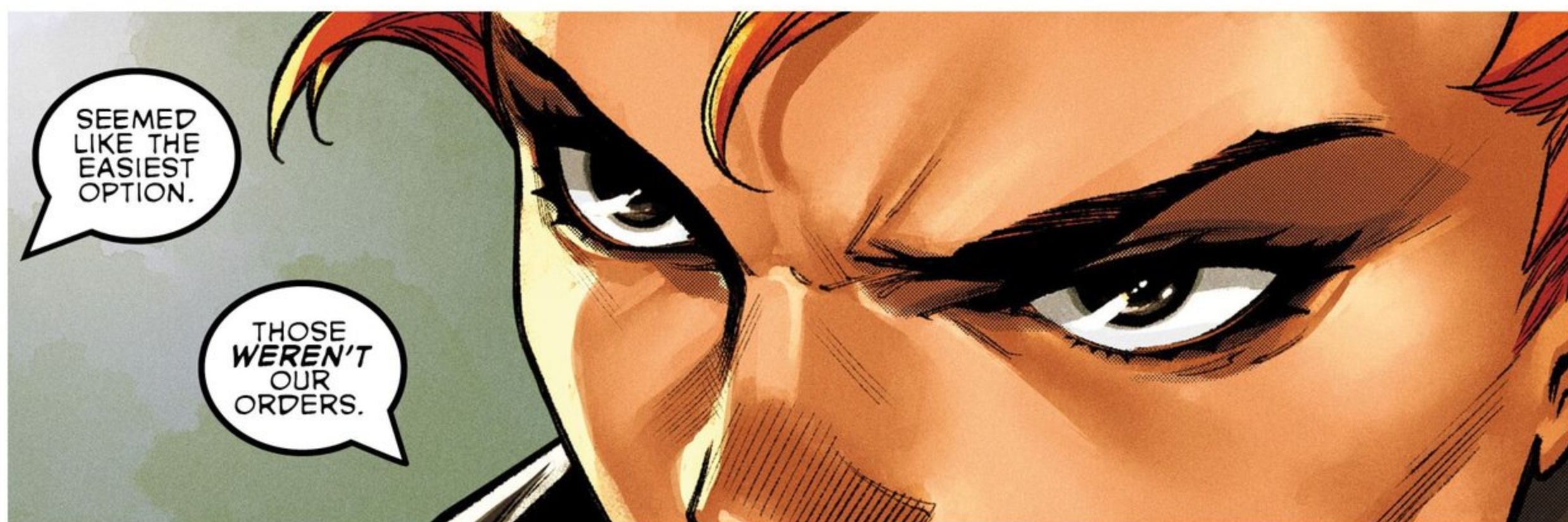
TRUTH IS,
MAYBE I
ENJOYED IT
TOO MUCH.



THE
WARLORD'S
HISTORY.
LET'S GO.



CHRIST,
BISHOP, WHAT THE
HELL HAVE YOU **DONE?**
THE VILLAGERS **ARE**
INNOCENTS!



SEEMED
LIKE THE
EASIEST
OPTION.

THOSE
WEREN'T
OUR
ORDERS.

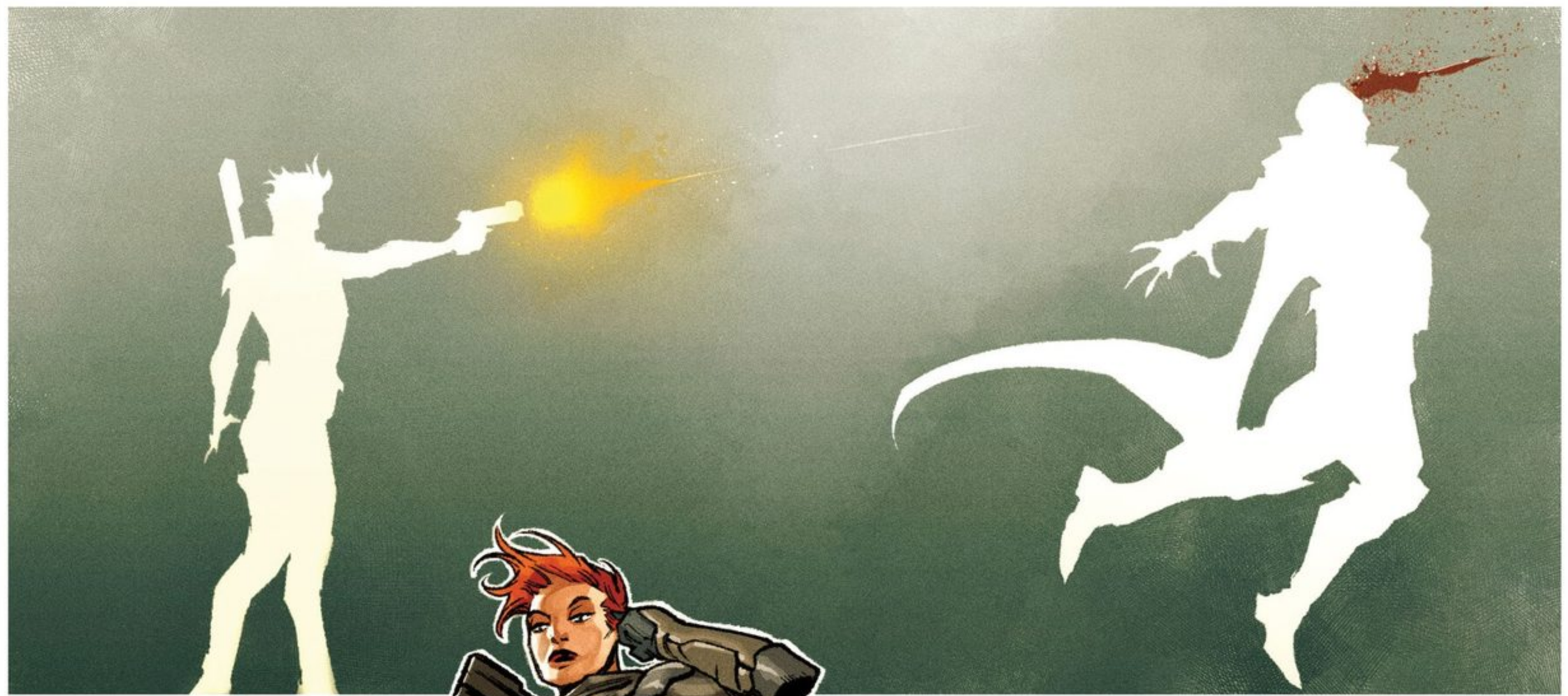


DON'T GET SOFT ON ME, RED.

I GOT THE JOB DONE. THAT'S WHAT'S IMPORTANT.

THAT WASN'T THE FIRST TIME MY BLOODLUST GOT THE BETTER ME.

BUT IT WOULD BE MY LAST.



GAVIARA'S DOWN, AL.
SO'S BISHOP.

K.I.A., IT LOOKS LIKE.

IT ALSO WOULDN'T BE THAT LAST TIME JESSICA PRIEST PUT DOWN A FELLOW OPERATIVE AND KEPT *QUIET* ABOUT IT.

HER BULLET SENT ME TO HELL...



NOW
I'M
BACK.

YES,
BUT HOW?
ARE YOU SOME
SORT OF SPAWN
NOW?



THERE ARE
MORE CIRCLES
OF HELL THAN THE
EIGHTH, MY DEAR
VISCERATOR--
AND MANY ARCH-
DEMONS WILLING
TO MAKE
DEALS.



I
PROMISE...
I'LL INTRODUCE
YOU TO MY
MASTER WHEN
THE TIME IS
RIGHT.

FOR NOW,
A DIFFERENT SORT
OF INTRODUCTION
IS IN ORDER.

A HALF-HOUR EARLIER...

OUTSIDE THAT
SAME BUILDING.

YOU
SURE THE
FRONT DOOR IS
OUR BEST BET,
JESSICA?

WE
ALREADY
TALKED
ABOUT
THIS.

BESIDES,
MEDIEVAL SAID
WE'RE GOING TO
NEED **MORE** THAN
JUST THE THREE
OF US.

I
HEARD HE'S
DRINKING
AGAIN.

MAYBE
HE'S GOT
GOOD
REASONS.

PLACES
LIKE THIS
CAN DO THAT
TO YOU.



YOU WANT THE HONORS, MARC?

I DON'T MIND.

BUT THE GUY IN MY HEAD IS **DEFINITELY** NOT A FAN OF CHURCHES.

WELCOME, MY CHILD, AND BLESS YOU.

YOU MAY PROCEED WITH YOUR CONFESSION.

I'M NOT **HERE** FOR THAT.

WELL, THEN...

WHAT **BRINGS** YOU, MY FRIEND?

YOU DO... FATHER KILGORE.

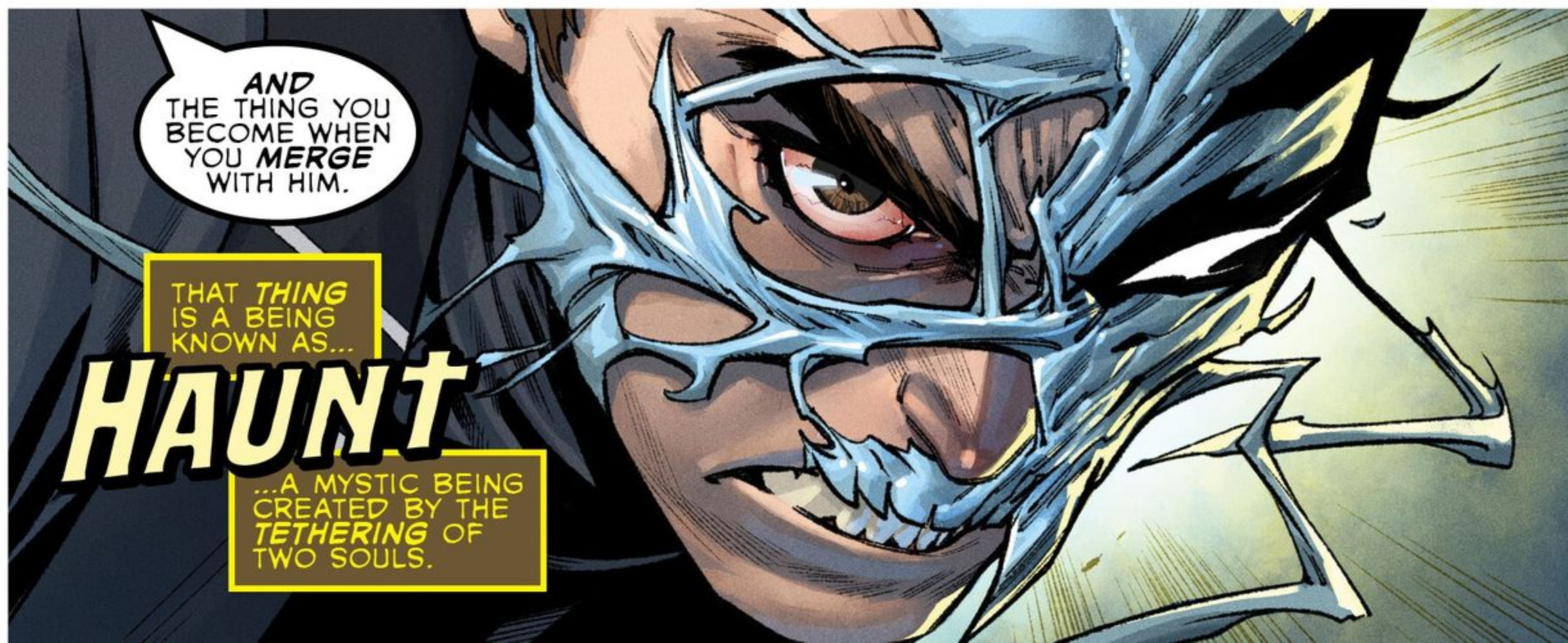
YOU AND YOUR DEAD BROTHER.

AND THE THING YOU BECOME WHEN YOU **MERGE** WITH HIM.

THAT **THING** IS A BEING KNOWN AS...

HAUNT

...A MYSTIC BEING CREATED BY THE **TETHERING** OF TWO SOULS.





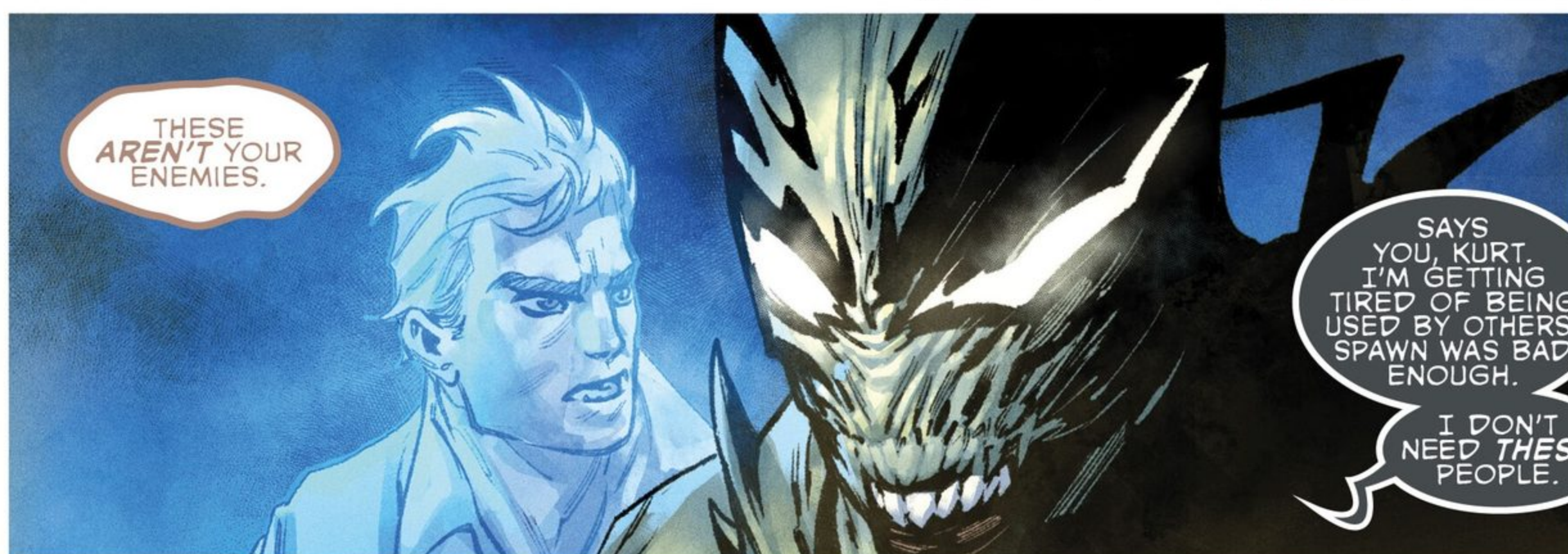
WITH EXTRAORDINARY
POWERS.

WHY
ARE YOU
HERE?

EASY,
HAUNT.

WE JUST
CAME HERE TO
TALK. THAT'S ALL.
LET YOU KNOW
ABOUT SOME
THINGS.

AS THE TENSION
RISES, MARC ROSEN
CONVERTS INTO
MEDIEVAL SPAWN.



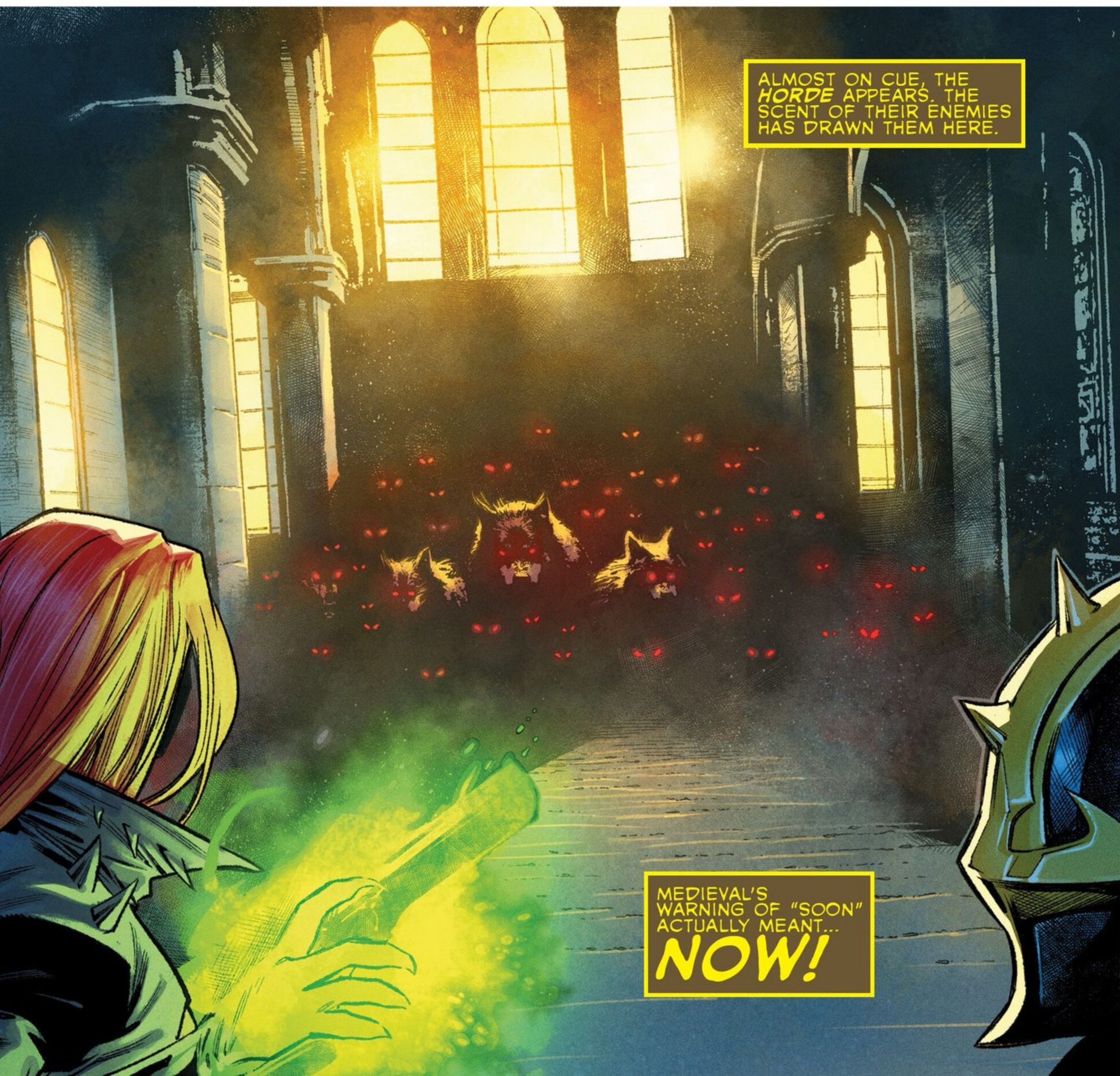




AN ENEMY
OF MINE, FROM
MY ERA, HAS
RESURFACED.

I KNOW
WHAT SHE'S CAPABLE
OF. SO, WE ARE TRYING TO
SHORE UP OUR NUMBERS,
IN PREPARATION FOR AN
ATTACK WE KNOW WILL
SOON COME.

HOW
SOON?



ALMOST ON CUE, THE
HORDE APPEARS. THE
SCENT OF THEIR ENEMIES
HAS DRAWN THEM HERE.

MEDIEVAL'S
WARNING OF "SOON"
ACTUALLY MEANT...
NOW!



SUMMONED BY
THE SHADOW'S
BLACKEST
CORNERS...

...THESE
SHADOW
BEASTS ARE...



CHOMP

RELENTLESS!



AND FOR EACH
ONE THEY PUT
DOWN--TWO MORE
TAKE THEIR PLACE.





WHILE THE
INSTIGATORS OF
THIS ATTACK,
CALMLY OBSERVE
THE CARNAGE.

WHY
CONJURE THESE
SHADOW BEASTS,
BISHOP? WHY AREN'T
WE KILLING
THEM?

WHY
DOES A CAT
PLAY WITH A
MOUSE BEFORE
CRUSHING
IT?

REVENGE
NEEDS TIME
TO REALLY
SATISFY.



WHEN WE'RE
FINISHED HERE,
THEY'LL **BEG US**
FOR A QUICK DEATH.
WHICH I'LL **GLADLY**
ACCOMMODATE.

I MISJUDGED
YOU BISHOP.

VERY
FEW OF US
UNDERSTAND THE
JOY KILLING
BRINGS.



BUT FOR
THESE
SEASONED
HEROES...



BLAM

BLAM



...THEY TOO, HAVE
A **BLOODLUST**
OF THEIR OWN.

ALLOWING ONE
OF THEM TO SPOT
SOMETHING MOVING
IN THE SHADOWS.

NO
WAY.



SOMETHING
THAT ABSOLUTELY
SHOULD **NOT** BE.



BISHOP?

SHE
KILLED
HIM.



BISHOP!

SHE DOESN'T HESITATE OR
QUESTION WHAT SHE SEES.
INSANITY HAS BECOME
PART OF HER NEW LIFE!

TIME
TO **GO**. THE
MOUSE HAS
BEGUN ITS
CHASE.

NO!
I'M NOT
RUNNING. NOT
FROM HER.



WE'RE NOT LEAVING BECAUSE OF HER....HE'S COMING.

WHO'S "HE?"

ONE WE CAN'T DEFEAT.... NOT RIGHT NOW.



TAKE US AWAY!

THIS CAN WAIT FOR ANOTHER DAY.

SHE-SPAWN'S ANSWERS WILL ALSO HAVE TO WAIT.

DAMMIT!



ENOUGH OF THIS.

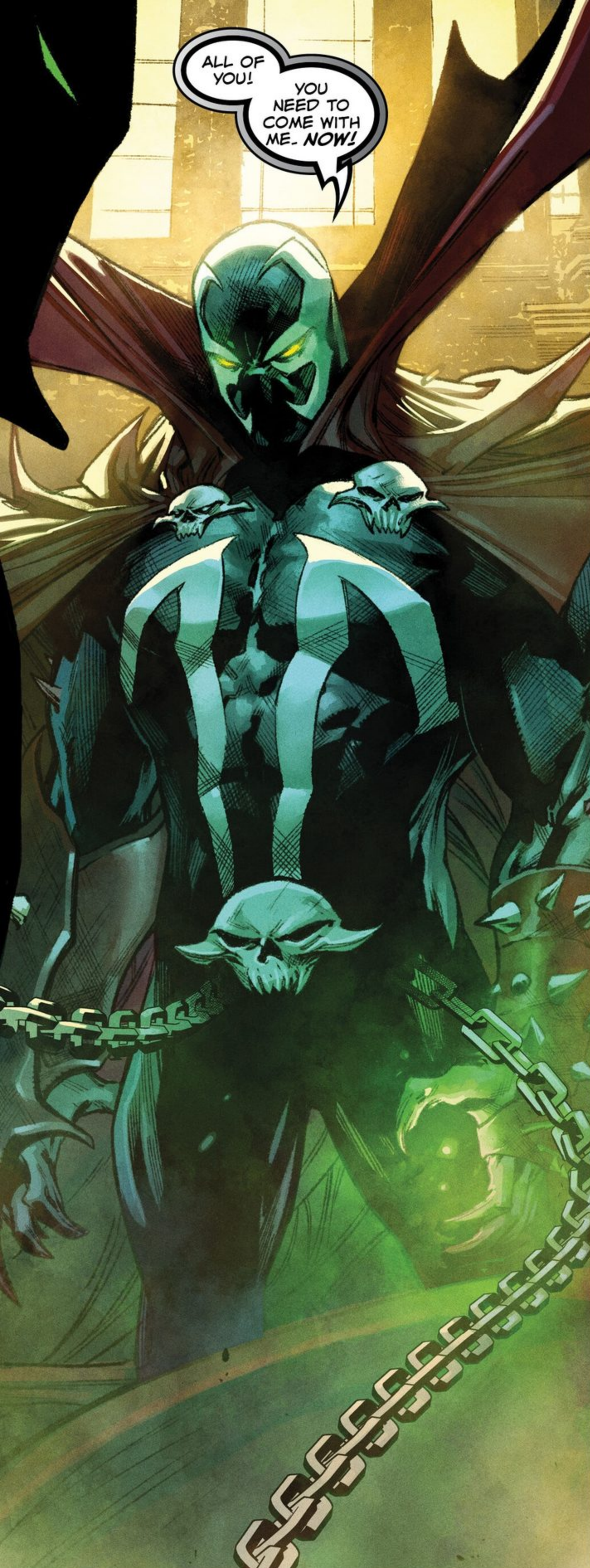
WITH A SINGLE,
POWERFUL
NECROPLASMIC BLAST,
THE NETHER BEASTS
ARE ERADICATED.

WHILE LEAVING
THEIR PREY
UNHARMED.

I SAID
ENOUGH!

THUS, ABRUPTLY
ENDING A BATTLE THAT
SHOULD NEVER HAVE
ADVANCED THIS FAR.

SKRAKOW!



ALL OF YOU!
YOU NEED TO COME WITH ME. NOW!



WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

I PUT YOU TOGETHER... TRAINED YOU FOR WAR...

WELL, THAT WAR HAS COME!*

*SEE WHAT SPAWN MEANS IN

SPAWN

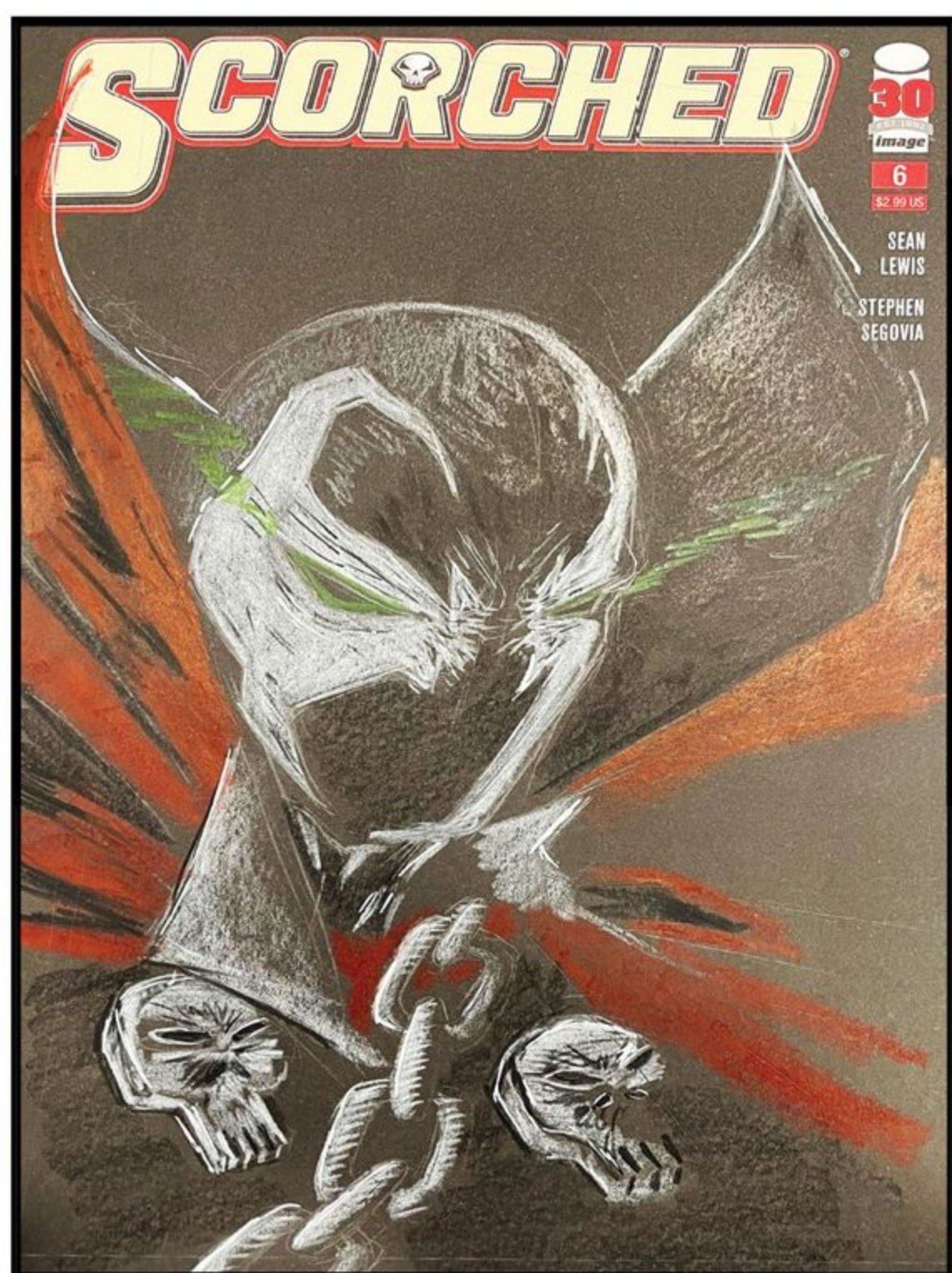
ISSUE #350!!
ON SALE NEXT WEEK!!



SPAWNING GROUND

PRESENTS:

MAILBAG



Made by me after Mr. Todd McFarlane
Instagram @lukes.sketches

Luke, thanks for sharing this cool Scorched cover with us. I am always a sucker for the black blank covers. It just works so well for Spawn and the Team. Keep up the good work!

-THOMAS

All the Spawn titles continue to be the best comics coming out right now. Scorched 24 was a perfect issue, with Jessica coming back to lead the team. I love the streamlined idea of three solid members. It's perfect! All three are amazing characters and bringing in Violator's sister - WOW! She is wicked! Keep up the amazing work on all the titles. Spawn is still going strong, and it's just getting better. I've been there since Issue 1 and never looked back!

-Jason (aka J-Man).

Thanks for the kind words, Jason. I agree bringing the team back to basics was a great move on John Layman's part. Getting a chance to explore the core team's characters and motivations is taking center stage this year. Get set for a wild ride!

-THOMAS

Scorched has been my favorite title since day one! But I have to ask, will we dive deeper into Monolith's past, and where the heck are Reaper and Soul Crusher? I can't wait to hear what you have in store!

-Jay

Glad to hear that you are digging the Scorched book. We have a lot planned for these characters. To answer your questions- Yes! We will be delving into the history of Monolith in the upcoming Monolith mini-series coming out in a few months. Written by Sean Lewis and beautiful art by Valerio Giangiordano. As far as Reaper and Soul Crusher, keep your eyes on the books after Spawn #350 comes out. You will see some familiar faces soon.

-THOMAS



Do you have a question or comment about Spawn? If so, e-mail it to us at:
spawningground@mcfarlane.com

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THE
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MARCH 2024

OUR BETRAYALS WRITE
THEMSELVES IN OUR FLESH...

WHAT WILL SAVE MAIKA?



BLOOD · LOYALTY · LOVE

MONSTRESSTM

THE POSSESSED

A NEW STORY ARC BEGINS IN ISSUE #49
FEBRUARY 2024

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SANA TAKEDA

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THE SCORCHED 27



MARCH 2024



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